

Randolph Township Trustees Regular Meeting Thursday, August 9, 2012

Chairman Roger Klodt opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Roger stated that he reviewed the previous meeting draft minutes and found them to be accurate. He asked if there were any corrections or additions. Mike moved to accept the previous meeting minutes as written. Sue seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes. Present: Trustees Roger Klodt, Mike Lang, Sue White, FO Mary Rodenbucher, D. Kolasky, G. Harrison, L. Klodt, B. Murphy, P. Cernava, J. Presley, L. Kuzma, M. Baer, V. and R. McKay, J. Mosyjowski, D. Rice

Old Business

Mike spoke about the ongoing situation with the restroom at the Moyer Field. He was approached by a resident that it was not cleaned. Mike also reported that we received a citation from the Health Department for the kitchen concession area. This is the first time this has ever happened and it needs to be addressed. Roger stated that in previous years the summer lunch program coordinator kept it clean. Mike would like to have Donna clean the restrooms and concession area and charge her time to the Hot Stove and soccer programs. He asked Dan to have a price for the next meeting. Roger feels it is fair to expect the athletic teams to keep the concession area and restrooms clean since we provide the building. The person who complained is not a complainer. Sue agrees with Mike and Roger. Mike was questioned about the Asplundh trucks parked at the Middle School Park. There was discussion about how long the trucks will be parked at the park and what they are doing for the township. Larry feels that realistically they have done about \$4,000-\$5,000 worth of tree work in exchange for parking at the park. Roger feels we are getting a good deal. Dan will ask them to move for the fair. Mike asked Dan how the information for the lawsuit is coming. Roger stated that there is a time frame on it and encouraged Dan to ask the trustees and fiscal officer for any information/help they can give.

Sue met with Larry and a representative from the county to discuss the drainage problems at Warner property. They came up with an estimate of about \$500 to fix the problem. Sue would like it fixed. Roger asked how much time we have put into the issue in the past. Larry reviewed the various times that the Road Department has worked on the problem. There was discussion about the flow of water. Larry stated that the store has not flooded since we fixed it a few years ago. Sue stated that they are neighbors to the RFD. We do things for each other. Sue feels that the township buildings are contributing to the problem. Sue feels it is the best thing to do. Roger asked if it will solve the issue. Larry is not sure, but it has to help. Roger asked if we do it, are we done with it. Mike stated that it is not a sure deal. Dan commented that the same problem has happened north of the center according to a resident. Dan feels it is the natural way for the water to come, but it has to help fix it. Larry stated that the Adelman pond has helped quite a bit with water drainage. Larry stated that we have worked with Warner's and do not have a problem. Roger does not want to take care of it forever. Larry does not feel the sole burden should be on the township. Mike asked how much labor would be involved. Larry feels it would be a day. Mike feels that everything we have done in the past has helped. Larry explained the pipework that is in place now. Sue moved to buy and install the pipe as recommended by the county to solve the water retention problem. Mike seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Sue reported that the issue will be on the ballot for Limited Home Rule for the township. Sue reported about her meeting at EMA. People from Mantua are concerned about the hauling of materials for injection wells. They brought their concerns and questions to the county. Sue explained what was happening with the petition Randolph and explained that some people were given the impression that we would have more power. Sue reported that Commissioner Frederick, as well as Rep. Clyde, stated that it was not true. Residents from Windham are upset and asking for help. There is no help to give. We, as a county, have no control over this issue. Even a village cannot stop the fracking. Only the state has the power to stop the drilling. Sue is not an expert on oil and gas drilling but stated it would be smart to be concerned and hopes the concerns are for naught. Sue stated that it is a private decision that each person makes with their property. The trustees have tried to get people educated quickly with information on the website. She strongly recommended to have an attorney review the lease and have your water tested. The State of Ohio needs to set rules and regulations. Sue is concerned about the misstatements made to residents to sign the petition. Sue feels that if something goes wrong the township will be blamed. Sue reiterated that we cannot do anything. Sue was approached by several people who asked if their name could be removed from the petition. Another resident stated that they signed it because they were afraid of the person asking them to sign. Sue stated that she has no control over any resident. Sue commented that each resident needs to make sure they know what they are doing before signing a lease. Sue explained the problems that come up with selling property and the lease language. Sue stated that our personal opinion does not matter, each resident is responsible for themselves. It will cost \$500 to place the issue

on the ballot. Sue stated that with Limited Home Rule we will have to pay for police and legal counsel. The only thing it will do is give the township power enforce and fine for zoning violations, but we still need a lawyer to follow through. Sue commented that you need to know what you are voting for. Virginia asked who is in charge of wording. Roger stated that it was on the petition and the BOE has the proper wording. Virginia stated that she was told by people that they signed the petition because they felt threatened and just wanted to get the lady doing the petition away from them. She and Sue were told by several people that they wanted their name off that petition. Dan asked about the cost in of Limited Home Rule with regard to the budget. Mike stated that a levy would have to be placed on the ballot because the general fund does not have the funds to pay for anything additional. Mike feels we need to support our schools. Roger explained what would need to be in place by January. Virginia stated that only a few people know the facts and asked if an article can be placed in the paper. Sue stated that one woman felt threatened in her own home. The group to stop fracking in Randolph is being talked about throughout Portage County. The Township Trustees and Portage Planning members know that Limited Home Rule will not keep fracking from occurring and is very expensive for a population of 5,200. They also stated that it is no way any trustee's fault whether or not any fracking occurs. It is all the state. George asked if the state gives more authority to Limited Home Rule. Sue stated that we would still have no control over the fracking. Larry asked if a newsletter could be sent with the facts. Roger stated that it needs to be another group since the township cannot use funds to influence voters to vote one way or another. Joe stated frustration. The people in Columbus keep telling us that they want to get big government out of townships. They have taken away all of our rights. Joe commented that education is the key. He personally does not feel the Limited Home Rule issue will pass for the reasons stated. Joe stated our community was originally populated because of clean water. He feels the day is coming when immigrants will move in for the clean water. Fracking will turn our water from clean to polluted water. He has concerns about the injection wells. Joe does not want foreign companies coming in and ruining our water. He is frustrated with the state and not the township or trustees. If Columbus wants to get big government off our backs then they need to give power back to the trustees. Joe stated that he understands that formally the trustees cannot do anything, but they can educate people. Sue does not want people misinforming the residents. Mike is worried that it may pass since people do not know what they are voting for. We have to change our focus. Mike sees this as a stepping stone to becoming a village. We do not have the tax base or the population to go that way. Bob stated the state is still in control. He is concerned about the impact of Limited Home Rule especially since people do not really know what it is. Bob asked why they cannot put out the information in the ORC. Roger stated that it is on our website. Mark questioned the cost of police coverage. His research does not indicate that it will cost much money. Roger explained the ORC statutes for Limited Home Rule which outlines what services must be provided. These services would not be covered by our property taxes if we become Limited Home Rule. Letters have been sent to the Sheriff and Prosecutor's Office. Mark feels the township cannot do anything except manage employees to keep our roads in good condition. There was discussion about the pros and cons of Limited Home Rule. Mark asked that before telling people what it will cost to find out if we really have to pay. Dan explained what he found in the ORC.

New Business

Mike and Sue have nothing at this time. Roger attended a teleconference with NOPEC. All electric service customers will receive a letter about August 20 with an agreement for a seven year rate stability. The rate will be 6.7 cents per kilowatt hour. Customers will have to opt in to get the rate. Roger encouraged everyone to ready the letter and opt in by the end of October. There is a fee to opt out in the future unless services migrate to another NOEPC program. Roger feels it will be a good deal to lock in a good rate.

Mary placed copies of the July bank reconciliation in the trustee's mailboxes. She asked if there were any questions. Sue moved to accept the July bank reconciliation. Mike seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Mary stated that we received a letter from the Department of Commerce stating that all the liquor licenses in the township will expire in October. Mary asked if there were any issues with any of the businesses renewing their licenses. There was discussion that there are no problems and the trustees have no objections. Mike moved to allow for all the liquor licenses to be renewed. Roger seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Mary requested a motion appropriate receipts 126 – 138 totaling \$14,850.63 and pay warrants 33604 - 33634, EFTs 1225 - 1231, and voucher 44 totaling \$21,968.04. Mike so moved. Sue seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Larry presented the road department report. Larry reported on road mowing, pipe/culvert maintenance and equipment repairs. Larry is investigating a request from a resident on a drainage problem on Alexander Road. Sue brought up another drainage problem. Larry stated that if it does not flood the road, it is not a township road problem. Larry reported that Central Allied will begin the OPWC project in August. Larry stated that East Manufacturing donated nine aluminum planks for the ball field bleachers. Larry is working on the bleachers and should have it finished next week. Larry also reported that East will build the body for the new truck. As in the past, they will match the lowest price that Larry receives for a new truck body. Larry commented that this ends being a fraction of the regular price. Roger commended East Manufacturing for being a good company to work with and thanked them for their donation. Larry reported that Mitchel Communication installed the new radios as required. Larry received a quote from Kuntzman and Co. for \$450 to trim and chip the brush on the Alexander Road pine trees. Mike moved to appropriate \$450 for Kuntzman and Co. for the pine tree maintenance. Sue seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Dan presented the Zoning and Trustee Assistant report. One permit was issued. Dan is following up on complaints. He spoke to Donna about cleaning the ball field restrooms. The next Zoning Commission meeting will be August 27 in the SC at 7 p.m. Dan commented that frustration is the wrong motivation for the petition. He asked if the issue can be removed. Mary stated that it can be withdrawn and explained the process.

Roger presented the fire report in Chief Lang's absence. Roger reported on several members who passed EMT and paramedic training. Several members taught a CPR class to Waterloo coaches. Our department covered EMS for Suffield during the memorial service for their member, John Mason. Ben Dyer will be taking his 240 hour firefighter II training at Stark State at a cost of \$1,545 plus workbook \$60 for a total cost of \$1,605.00. Roger reported on the completion of the communications tower. Time and effort was donated by many department members. The tower climbing and final putting together of tower and antenna was donated by Gary Huhn I, Gary Huhn II, and Marcus Gillis. Chief Lang expressed his gratitude for their time and expertise. Sue explained the importance of the tower in the county. The calls were being dropped and had problems with communication. There is nothing more important than the safety of our residents. A fence needs to be installed around the tower. Three quotes were received. Roger moved to contract with J&M Fencing. Sue seconded. Discussion: Sue asked if the fence is the same material as the other fences in the township. Roger stated that it is. Bob asked about the height of the fence. Roger stated that it will be eight feet tall. Mark asked if the township owned the tower. Roger explained how the department obtained and installed the tower. We have roughly \$15,000 in the tower compared to \$120,000 for a new tower. Roger is extremely happy with RFD members for their volunteerism. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Roger moved to approve \$1,605 for Ben Dyer to attend the 240 hour firefighter training at Stark State. Sue seconded. RCV: Mike – yes; Sue – yes; Roger – yes.

Public Comment

Randy asked if the petition will be on the ballot and if it has been paid. Roger stated that the petition was approved and explained the process.

Paul stated that we have very few rights left and should not take away the right to vote on the issue. Paul agrees that everyone should be told the truth when signing. Larry commented that you should not sign without knowing what exactly you are signing.

Mark questioned the cost. Mary explained the cost for printing the ballot and paying poll workers.

Doug is concerned about the group disrupting the Randolph Township community. He would not sign the petition. Sue asked if he was told it would stop fracking. Doug stated that they did indirectly. Doug stated that energy is what made our country what it is. We are second in air pollution with coal burning not natural gas drilling. Doug feels natural gas is the only way to go. Sue agreed that gas is important but water is more important. Doug stated that there is no concrete evidence that water has been contaminated. Mark stated that it is. Doug feels it is slanted information and we need to learn the difference. Roger stated will not get into argument. Roger agrees that each group gives their own opinion on what is true.

Gary agrees with the comments that the people who volunteer make the community. Roger
With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Roger Kloet
Mary A. Rodenbuscher